

## OCEANS ARE AN IMPT PART OF THE BIOSPHERE: CM

Panaji, June 08, 2022

Highlighting the role oceans play in everyday life, the Chief Minister, Dr Pramod Sawant said that oceans are a major source of food, medicine and a critical part of the biosphere. He was speaking on the occasion of World Oceans Day which was celebrated at the CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) at Dona Paula, today. Director of CSIR-NIO, Prof Sunil Kumar Singh, Head, Business Development Group, Dr V. Sanil Kumar and Head, Marine Archaeology, NIO, Shri Sundaresh were present on the occasion.

Talking about the significance of the day, Dr Sawant said that the event is a global one aimed at celebrating oceans and their importance in our lives and is a day to reflect and recognize the considerable challenges we face in maintaining a healthy ocean.

While speaking of the Central government's Sagarmala Project aimed at tapping the potential of rivers and oceans, Dr Sawant informed, "In my recent participation at the Sagarmala meeting at New Delhi, I have emphasized the need for a combined effort by involving the knowledge and skill of NIO in making the Sagarmala project more effective." He further called upon the scientists of NIO and students of Oceanography, to share their knowledge and research with the Government in suggesting ways and means to improve the conditions of Goa's part of the Arabian Sea. He also sought their inputs and suggestions to promote the increase in fish production in Goa by adopting modern ways to culture various fish varieties.

Participants of the green mussels (*Shinane*) cultivation under CSIR-NIO skill initiative project undertaken in Verem-Reis Magos were also felicitated. The Chief Minister commended this initiative of NIO in

taking forward the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Swayampurna Goa through this project.

World Oceans Day is celebrated every year on **June 8**. The theme for this year's celebration is 'Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean.' On the occasion, the magazine 'Samudramanthan' was released. Prize winners of various competitions to mark the event were also felicitated. Foundation day awards were also given to outstanding employees of NIO.

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